



IFW

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Application of:**

van Esch et al.

**Serial No.:** 10/656,839

**Filed:** September 5, 2003

**For:** GELLING AGENTS OR  
THICKENERS

**Confirmation No.:** 8407

**Examiner:** S. Kumar

**Group Art Unit:** 1621

**Attorney Docket No.:** 2183-6090US

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

December 1, 2004  
Date

*Betty Vowles*  
Signature

Betty Vowles  
Name (Type/Print)

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of September 1, 2004, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** begin on page 5.